

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 69

43RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 1998

INTRODUCED BY

JAMES G. TAYLOR

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THAT ALL COUNTIES PROVIDE RESIDENTS THE OPTION TO
DECLINE COUNTY WASTE COLLECTION SERVICES.

WHEREAS, as a consequence of inadequate revenues to
operate expensive solid waste facilities that comply with
environmental protection agency requirements, many counties
have had to consolidate landfill and other solid waste
facilities; and

WHEREAS, closure of landfills and the attendant increase
in distances traveled and costs incurred by residents for
waste disposal have increased litter and illegal dumping
throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, many counties are trying to cope with the litter
and illegal dumping problem by establishing publicly financed
curbside waste collection services to be paid for from service

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = del ete

1 charges on all residents in their jurisdictions; and

2 WHEREAS, because New Mexico is one of the poorest states,
3 with a per capita income ranking of about forty-seventh in the
4 nation, making public services such as curbside waste
5 collection mandatory is unfair to low-income residents; and

6 WHEREAS, many subdivisions, neighborhoods and community
7 associations contract with private waste collection services,
8 and mandatory public waste collection charges to residents of
9 these areas is unfair because they would be paying double for
10 services already provided;

11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
12 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that all counties that establish mandatory
13 services, such as curbside trash collection, be requested to
14 provide residents the option not to participate in trash
15 collection services so that low-income residents are not
16 unfairly taxed and residents already paying for services are
17 not unfairly treated; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
19 transmitted to all boards of county commissioners.